



For Immediate Release: November 05, 2009
Office of the Associate to the Superintendent

Contact: Todd Jaeger
(520) 696-5155

Local High School Academic Decathlon Team Wins Texas Tournament

Tucson, AZ - Canyon del Oro High School's defending state champion Academic Decathlon team traveled to Dallas, Texas, to take on some of the Lone Star State's top schools and emerged victorious. In their first competition of the year, 17 CDO students competed in seven content areas against 13 other teams at the Rockwall High School Invitational Academic Decathlon Scrimmage on October 24th in Rockwall, TX.

In the Academic Decathlon, students take written exams in seven different areas: art history, economics, history, literature, music appreciation, mathematics, and science; this occurs within an overall competition theme. This year's theme focuses on the French Revolution. CDO students finished 1st through 4th in the overall standings for their groups, with senior Rush Moore placing first, senior Jordan Kurker-Mraz placing second, sophomore Cameron Donnelly finished in 3rd and junior Chelsea Parraga finished in 4th place.

Earning individual medals were senior Nicolas Baird, junior Anna Hainsworth, sophomore Brittany Rudolph, senior Chongwoo Sun, senior Seungwoo Sun, sophomore Jeannie Wilkening, junior David Argentati, senior Jordan Neerhof, and senior Ellie Strasser. Sophomore Phillip Gotobed, junior Caitlin Drake, junior Zachary Ferrell, and junior Cogan Streeter also participated.

CDO students were housed in Texas by the host team's families and Rockwall students will be housed by CDO families when their team travels to Tucson in December. Last year's CDO team clinched the state title in early March and went on to place 4th in the national competition at the end of April.

CDO High School is one of the 22 schools and special programs that make up the Amphitheater School District which serves the educational needs of over 15,000 students covering 110 square miles of Northwest Tucson and Oro Valley. CDO has been named an "Excelling" school since 2005 under the AZ LEARNS labeling system.

###